

# Joyce Carol Oates

**Joyce Carol Oates**, born in June 16, 1938 in New York (age 75). She is a very well known contemporary American writer who has published over 40 novels and she also won many awards for her writings. She has written novels, short story collections, poetry, children's fiction, drama and essays, so she is a very productive writer.

For her work, she was twice nominated for the Nobel Prize.

As a child, she became interested in reading at an early age when she read *Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* which was for her as she said: 'the great treasure of my childhood, and the most profound literary influence of my life. This was love at first sight.'

Oates began writing at the age of 14, more than that, she was the first in



Her first published novel was *With Shuddering Fall* (1964) when she was 26 years old. She is also a teacher at The University of Detroit and then at Princeton University in New Jersey.

Of all her published books, the most noted ones are:

- *Where are you going? Where have you been?* (1966)- a short story dedicated to Bob Dylan;
- *them* ( 1967);
- *Wonderland* (1971);
- *Black Water* (1992);
- *Blonde* (2000);
- *On Boxing* (1987);
- *I'll take you there*(2002)

*Golden Gloves* is included in the collection 'New and Selected Stories' (1987). About this story, Joyce Carol Oates said: 'Life is like boxing in many regards.' It is about the growth of a boy to become a man. This boy was born with deformed feet, and he couldn't walk until 3 years old. His parents were ashamed of him, being handicapped. Even if the main character achieves success and happiness in his career, he struggles with insecurity.